

County of Los Angeles

Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner

**Forensic Research Center (FRC)
and HRD K9 Training Facility**

Project Goals

- Create a working environment that produces collaborative, comprehensive, and relevant research programs within forensics
 - Can be applied and will be useful to the medical, science and judicial communities
 - Policy development
 - Training
- Successfully compete for extramural funding
 - Grants
 - Donations

Initial Start-up – 1st Year

(~\$576,000)

LOCATION

- County land rent
 - Subject to location and assessment completion
 - EIR, historical record, permeability
- Modular building rental - \$4k
- Security
 - Fencing - \$50k
 - Defined by area
 - Cameras/motion sensors - \$10k
 - Guards (2) if required - \$90k
- Utilities – Dept budget

PERSONNEL

- Director - \$140k
- Donation Coordinator - \$100k
- Research Project Coordinator - \$100k
- Clerical staff and I/T - \$80k
 - Unpaid volunteer grad students (+/-10)
- S&S Supplies
 - Protection from feral animals - \$2k
 - PPE, excavation tools, office supplies – Dept budget

Canine Acquisition

PROJECTION - FY15-16

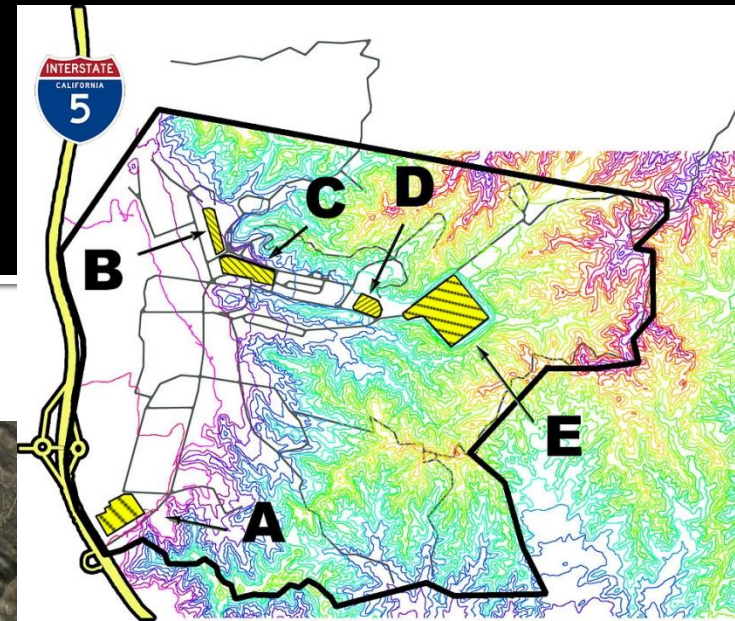
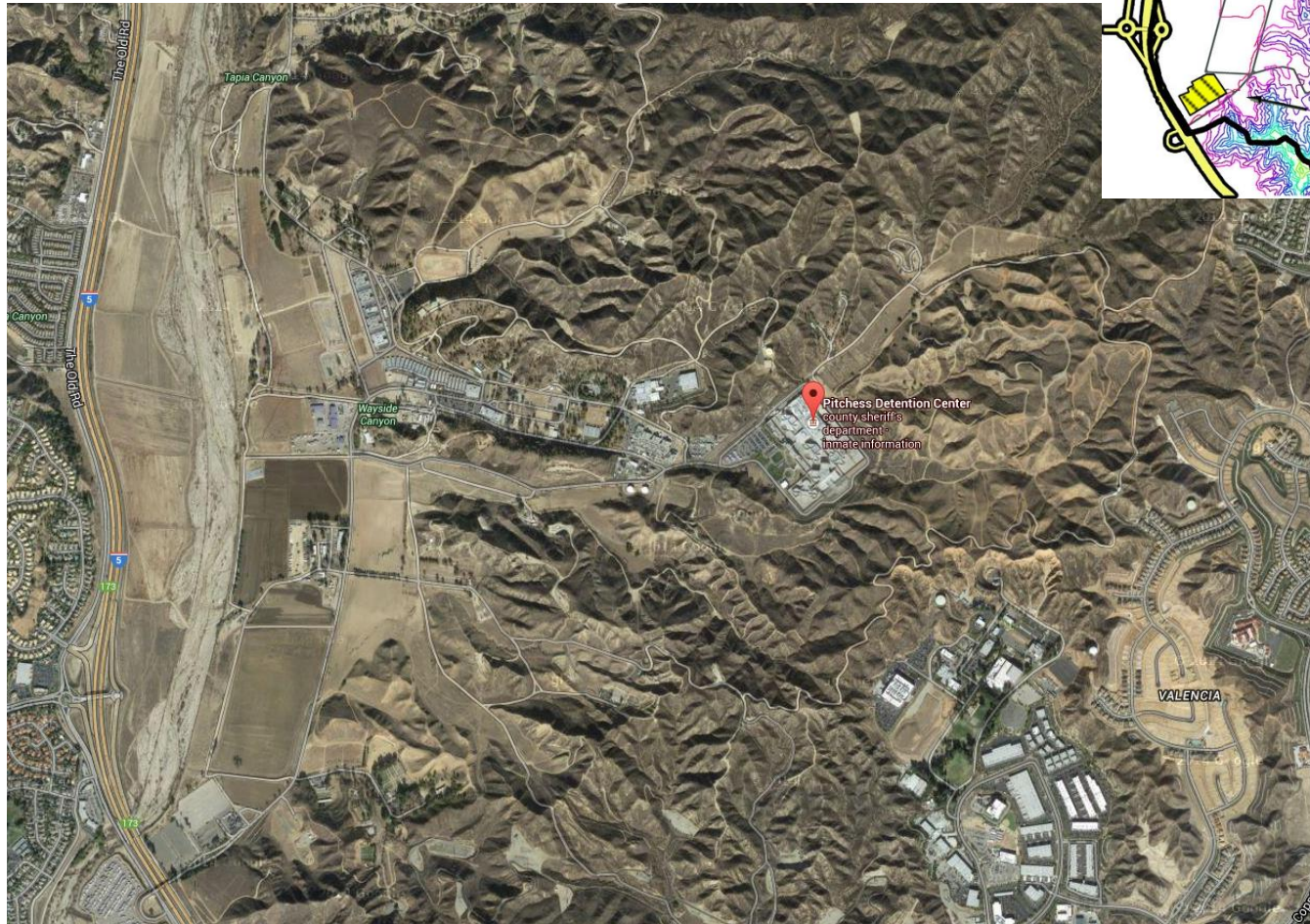
- Replacement K9 - **\$7300**
 - Guaranteed against all congenital and performance issues for 12 months
 - Overlap to allow for development prior to current kg's retirement
- Detection Certification Course - **\$4500**
- Replacement K9 SUV - **\$County Pricing**
- Separate equipment, food and veterinary overlap – **minimal (with same handler)**

DONATION ACCOUNT - *IN HIGH DEMAND BY THE PUBLIC*

- Researching potential fundraising options for self-sustainment
 - County Donation Trust Fund
 - 501 (c)(3)

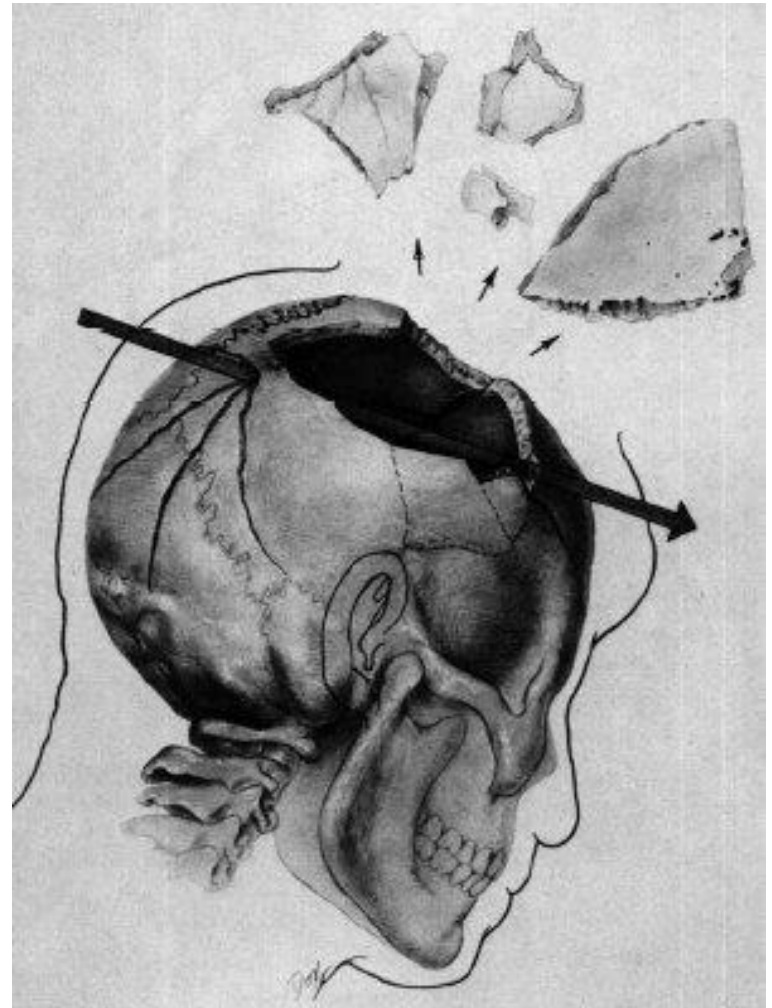


Pitchess Detention Center

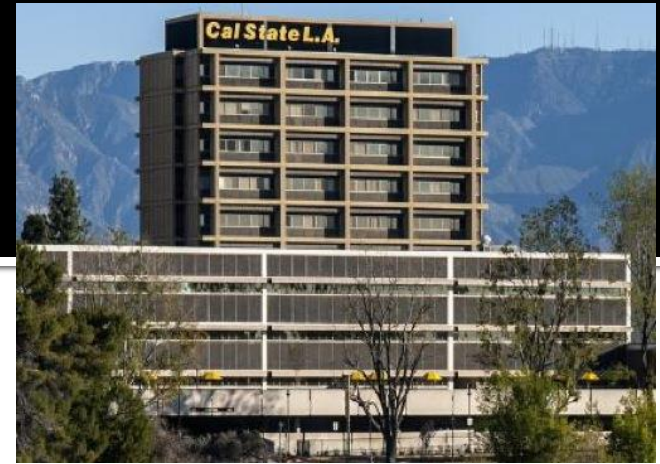


Research Projects

- Forensic Anthropology is a field that studies the human skeleton to aid law enforcement
 - Determine the age, sex, ancestry, and stature
 - Modern collection
 - Trauma analysis
 - Time of death and manner of death
- Identifying the possible perpetrator and victim is critical to the investigation
- International cooperation
 - California/Mexico border
- Annual workshops



University Support



- Cal State L.A.
 - Invested in forensic science
 - Collaboration between anthropology, criminalistics and engineering ongoing
 - MOU between the university and L.A. M/E-Coroner for anthropology curation and internships
 - LASD/LAPD Crime Lab

Donation Program

- Public embrace
 - Waiting list at UT of over 1,000 individuals
 - Houston state 200+ since ~10yrs
- State donation processes already in place
- Robin's Story
 - In 2012, Robin Steffens of Huntsville decided to donate his body to STAFS after discovering he had terminal liver cancer. He wanted to share his story in hopes that others would consider a gift to advance education in forensic science

Grover Krantz and Clyde



Case Study

- Skull located by hiker (surface)
- Kg located clandestine grave nearby
- Post Mortem Interval (PMI) challenge
 - Distinct severe skull trauma
 - No known case studies
 - Distinct decomposition due to burial type

Summary

- Identification of decedents
- Assisting law enforcement with interpretation of events
- K9 training
- PMI
- Local, national and international collaboration

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